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No. 119

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

Washington, DC, September 21, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CANDICE S. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Monsignor Kenneth Velo, Office of Catholic Collaboration, DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

E Pluribus Unum, out of many one, is not only an expression fundamental to these United States but also a reality we experience so often and one you visit each day as you seek consensus in this great Chamber.

So many differences, yet one great Nation, America. If there is one desire we all have, I believe it is peace. We bow our heads this morning, for though there are varied religious traditions here, it is faith and service that calls us together.

Our prayer this day includes family and friends, young and old. Our thoughts embrace the poor, the sick, the less fortunate. Our remembrances recall our beloved dead. For the people of the Middle East, for our women and men in uniform serving there and beyond, give peace, O God, give peace again.

For our brothers and sisters on the gulf coast and in particular New Orleans, Biloxi, and these days Texas as well, give peace, O God, give peace again.

For those who suffer in mind or body, those in pain from grief or loss, give peace, O God, give peace again.

May those who are homeless have shelter, the sick have comfort, and the dying have dignity. May those who are hungry have bread, and may we who have bread hunger for justice and peace.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. REYES led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING MONSIGNOR KENNETH VELO

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize and welcome Monsignor Velo, one of Chicago's most distinguished religious leaders, as today's guest chaplain.

Born on Chicago's south side, the Monsignor was ordained in 1973. In 1985, Monsignor Velo became the executive assistant to the late Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, a position he held for 14 years. Monsignor Velo and Cardinal Bernardin were close friends, and it

was Monsignor Velo who cared for Cardinal Bernardin's mother after the Cardinal passed away.

Impressed by his reputation as a public servant, the late Pope John Paul, II appointed Monsignor Velo to be president of the Catholic Church Extension Society. Today he is senior executive of the Office of Catholic Collaboration at DePaul University, the largest Catholic university in the country, located in Chicago's Lincoln Park.

Monsignor Velo is an important Chicagoan with an impressive background and résumé. But more important, Monsignor Velo is a humanitarian who has dedicated his life to God and to improving the lives of everyone around him. Chicago is blessed by Monsignor Velo. Madam Speaker, I thank him for his service and for being here today.

NATIONAL EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER WEEK

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight that we are currently celebrating National Employ the Older Worker Week. This week, which is sponsored by the American Legion, has been observed for over 40 years. It is appropriate to recognize and appreciate this growing demographic workforce.

After all, our country is witnessing major growth in the number of Americans that are nearing the traditional retirement age. It is estimated that by 2008 nearly half of the workforce will be over 45 years old.

As our population continues to grow older, these citizens will play an even more important role in our economy. Older workers bring many assets to the workplace, including good work ethics, motivation, experience, and knowledge. My hat goes off to our older

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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